

Entimations

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers,
Hongkong, 12th December, 1900. [19

12th October, 1898. [21]

Acting Manager
Hepkirk, 25th February, 1901. [261c]

Today's
Advertisements.THEATRE ROYAL,
CITY HALL.Mr. HENRY DALLAS'
COMIC OPERA SEASON.TO-NIGHT,
TO-MORROW (FRIDAY),
AND
SATURDAY,

THE CHARMING CHINESE OPERA

"SAN TOY,"

WHICH IS STILL RUNNING AT
DALY'S THEATRE, LONDON.MONDAY NEXT,
FOR THREE NIGHTS,THE
"Belle of New
York."THURSDAY NEXT,
"The French
Maid."

FULL CHORUS.

AUGMENTED ORCHESTRA.

Musical Director—Mr. W. F. Vallance.

PLAN, at ROBINSON PIANO CO.

Doors Open 8.30 P.M. Commence 9 P.M.

A Late Tram will run nightly during the
Season.BERTRAM HERMANN,
Business Manager.

Hongkong, 14th March, 1901. [285c]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR HAIPHONG.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAILONG."

Captain Bathurst, will be despatched for the
above Port, TO-MORROW, the 15th instant,
at Noon.For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LARPAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1901. [323c]FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND
CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship

"CATHERINE APCAR."

Captain J. G. Oliffant, will be despatched for the
above Ports, on TUESDAY, the 19th instant,
at 5 P.M.For Freight or Passage, apply to
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1901. [315c]

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM MIDDLESBROUGH, ANTWERP,
LONDON, PORT SAID, COLOMBO
AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAKATA MARU."

Having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees
of Goods are hereby informed that their Goods
are being landed and placed at their risk in the
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown
Company's Godown at Kowloon, where each
consignment will be sorted out mark by mark
and delivery can be obtained as soon as the
goods are landed.Optional goods will be carried on unless
instructions are given to the contrary before
4 P.M., TO-DAY.Goods not cleared by the 21st instant, will
be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

All ship-damaged packages must be left in
the Godowns and Notice of same sent to this
Office before the 24th instant, or claims in
connection therewith will not be recognized.NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1901. [325c]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM MIDDLESBROUGH, LONDON AND
STRAITS.

THE Steamship

"RADNORSHIRE."

Captain Burch, having arrived from the
above Ports, Consignees of Goods are hereby
informed that their Goods are being landed at
their risk in the Godowns of the Hongkong
and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company,
Limited, at Kowloon and stored at Consignees'
risk and expense.No Claims will be admitted after the Goods
have left the Godowns and all Goods remaining
undelivered after the 20th instant, will be subject
to rent.All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to
be left in the Godowns, where they will be
examined on the 19th instant, at 2.30 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
Agents.Today's
Advertisements.

ROYAL ARTILLERY SPORTS.

ON the Occasion of the ROYAL ARTIL-
LERY REGIMENTAL SPORTS, to be
held in the HAPPY VALLEY on THURSDAY,
the 21st March, the Officers of the Regiment
will be "AT HOME" to their Friends from
2 P.M. till 6.30 P.M.
By kind permission of Lt.-Col. Hon. R. H.
BERTIE, the BAND of the ROYAL-WELCH
FUSILIERS will play during the afternoon.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1901. [330c]THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAM-
SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA VIA AMOY.

THE Company's New Steamship

"DIAMANTE."

Captain A. Ramsay, will be despatched as above,
on SATURDAY, the 16th instant, at 2 P.M.
The Attention of Passengers is directed to
the Excellent Accommodation provided by this
Steamer. She is fitted throughout with Electric
Light. A Doctor is carried.For Freight or Passage, apply to
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1901. [314c]

"SHIRE" LINE.

FOR NAGASAKI.

THE Steamship

"RADNORSHIRE."

Captain Burch, will be despatched for the
above Port, on SATURDAY, the 16th instant,
at 5 P.M.For Freight or Passage, apply to
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1901. [326c]DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAITAN."

Captain Roach, will be despatched for the
above Ports, on SUNDAY, the 17th instant,
at Daylight.For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LARPAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1901. [327c]DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR AMOY AND TAMSUI.

THE Company's Steamship

"FORMOSA."

Captain Hodgins, will be despatched for the
above Ports, on SUNDAY, the 17th instant,
at Daylight.For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LARPAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1901. [328c]INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA.

THE Company's Steamship

"LOONGSANG."

Captain Weigall, will be despatched as above
on THURSDAY, the 21st instant, at 4 P.M.This Steamer has Superior Accommodation
for First class Passengers, is fitted throughout
with Electric Light and carries a Doctor.For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1901. [324c]

Intimations.

EYE-SIGHT.

Mr. N. LAZARUS,

Oculist-Optician, of London and Calcutta,
may be consulted for SPECTACLES
at 10, Queen's Road Central,
(R. HOUGHTON & Co.)
(Nearly opposite the HONGKONG HOTEL).
Business hours—9 A.M. to 5 P.M.A GREAT proportion of catarrhs and
diseases affecting those advancing in life
occur to those having some deficiency in the
construction of the eyes—the many years of
'Eye Strain' ending in serious forms of disease.
Glasses specially adapted in youth to those
requiring them save and preserve the sight.Constantly recurring headaches, spells of
dimness when reading, weak eyes, the letters
running together; any of these symptoms indicate
a deficiency in the form of the eye requiring
Glasses only to correct and cure.Mr. LAZARUS supplies his SPECTACLES
only after testing the sight.

ADVICE FREE. [1451b]

NOW READY.

AN ACCOUNT

RECEPTION OF H.M.S. "TERRIBLE,"

IN

HONGKONG

AND THE

FESTIVITIES CONNECTED

THEREWITH.

WOODCUT OF THE "TERRIBLE."

To be obtained at the Office of This Paper.

PRICE 30 CENTS.

As only a limited number have been printed
intending purchasers should send their Orders
early, for the issue of this interesting souvenir
will soon be exhausted.
Hongkong, 1st June, 1900.

WANTED.

THREE or FOUR LADS
to SELL the"HONGKONG
TELEGRAPH."

LIBERAL COMMISSION

PAID.

Apply Personally at

THIS OFFICE.

HONGKONG, 14th March, 1901.

Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & Co.,
LIMITED.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

SCOTCH WHISKY.

A.—THORNE'S BLEND, White
Capsule \$10.80B.—WATSON'S GLENORCHY,
MELLOW BLEND, Blue
Capsule, with Name
and Trade Mark 10.80C.—WATSON'S ABELOUR-GLEN-
LIVET, Red Capsule,
with Name and Trade
Mark 12.00D.—WATSON'S H.K.D., BLEND
OF THE FINEST SCOTCH
MALT WHISKIES, Vio-
let Capsule 14.40E.—WATSON'S VERY OLD LA-
QUEUR SCOTCH WHISKY,
Gold Capsule 16.00THORNE'S BLEND and WATSON'S
GLENORCHY are high class Soda
Whiskies, of greater age than most
brands in the market.ABELOUR-GLENLIVET is a very old
Peat Whisky, (smoky) and could not
now be replaced in stock at the price.D. is well known for
its fine flavour.E. is of superb quality
and pronounced by lead-
ing local connoisseurs to
be the best brand in the
Hongkong Market.A. S. WATSON & CO. LIMITED,
HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1901.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The Kowloon Roads.

The Public Works Department would do
well to look to the Kowloon roads before the
wet weather sets in. These roads have not
been constructed to stand heavy traffic. They
are, in the majority of cases, not macadam-
ized like those of Hongkong, but simply
made up of rolled or stamped earth. So long
as traffic was confined to rickshas and
pedestrians all went well and the roads re-
mained in fairly good condition. But mat-
ters are changed now. The Siege Train,
the Bengal Lancers and a large number of
transport mules and bullocks, with heavy
wagons, are now stationed in Kowloon. The
wheels of the carriages of the heavy siege
guns have cut many of the roads up terribly,
and the passage over them of cavalry,
bullocks, mules and army wagons, has
greatly added to the damage commenced
by the passing of the Artillery. The result
is that the roads so traversed have been cut
up into ruts and furrows and are, in many
places, inches deep in dust. The state that
these roads will get into so soon as the rains
'commence can be easily appreciated by any-
one who will take the trouble to inspect them
in their present condition, and it is evidently
high time that the matter was taken in hand.
Kowloon is growing in importance day by
day and traffic is increasing, so if the roads
are allowed to become quagmires, as many
of them undoubtedly will if not looked to at
once, a vast amount of unnecessary in-
convenience will be caused.The roads traversed by the tramways of
the Godown Company also require atten-
tion. These are concreted, but are badly
cut up in places where the coolies have
carelessly allowed the heavily laden troll-
ies to run off the metals. These ruts are
a source of danger to rickshas and to
cyclists, and in the dark are apt to be the
cause of sprained ankles or broken limbs to
pedestrians. Several minor accidents have
already occurred and we think that repairs
should be taken in hand before some bad
smash draws forcible attention to the sub-
ject. Such roads as these, used as they are
by thousands of persons daily, require con-
stant attention and should be looked to
directly the first traces of wear become ap-
parent. A little work done at frequent
intervals would keep them in proper order
and would be cheaper in the long run.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE PLAGUE AT CAPE TOWN.

London, March 14th.

The plague is seriously developing at
Cape Town. The Malays are rioting against
preventive measures, but the Malay priests
are supporting the authorities.

THE SUGAR TRADE.

The Liverpool refiners are importing thou-
sands of tons of sugar from the Continent in
anticipation of a duty on sugar of £3 per
ton.

THE NAVY ESTIMATES.

SUBMARINE BOATS.

The Navy estimates show an increase of
£2,800,000 which provides for 3,745 more
men, three new battleships, eight cruisers,
fifteen torpedo-boat-catchers and five Holland
submarine boats. The question of the use
of the latter is being carefully studied. The
estimates provide for new arrangements to
retain 48 Orient, P. & O. and other liners as
fast cruisers.

WEATHER REPORT.

The Observatory report says—

On the 14th at 11.55 a.m. the barometer has
fallen on the China coast, probably owing to
the existence of a depression over N. China.
Pressure is highest over W. Japan. Gradients
slight with variable winds on the coast, and
decreasing monsoon in the N. part of the China
Sea. Forecasts—E. winds, decreasing; dull,
some rain.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE German census shows a population of
\$6,345,014, an increase of four millions in five
years.THE Volunteer movement hangs fire at Kuala
Lumpur. Only fifty names are down for enrol-
ment, out of 350 eligibles. Very few married
men have joined.LIEUT. and Commander Arthur H. Oldham,
who has been appointed to the command of
H.M.S. Plover, will take over the command at
Singapore from Commander J. F. E. Green.A COOLIE yesterday committed what is sup-
posed to be suicide by divesting himself of all
his clothing and jumping into the harbour at
Kennedy-town. His body was recovered and
taken to the Mortuary.THE West Australian Government is inviting
competitive designs for new Houses of Parlia-
ment, to cost £100,000. Three premiums are
offered, viz., £500, £200, and £100 for the first,
second, and third designs.It is notified in our advertising columns that
the officers of the Royal Artillery will be "at
home" to their friends on the occasion of the
R. A. Regimental Sports, which take place on
Thursday next, the 21st March, from 2 till
6.30 p.m.THE company Des Chargeurs Réunis are to
open shortly their new service to Indo-China
with departures from Dunkirk, calling at Havre
and Saigon and Haiphong. Six steamers are
at present being built, which are destined for
the new service.SEAGULLS of two species are still in evidence
in the harbour, so we presume that there is
little prospect of the cold and unpleasant
weather coming to an end just at present.These birds are almost invariably a sure sign
of inclement weather in Hongkong.We have before pointed out that the D. P. W.
wastes much time and a fair amount of money
in cutting afresh the side drains or channels on
the road to Kowloon City, as soon as the edge
crumbles in. Would it not be cheaper in the
end to make a proper job of these drains?We have received from the Commissioner of
Chinese Customs a notice to the effect that the
following error occurs in the "List of Lights,"
etc., for 1901:—

Page 23, column 1, Lights Nos. 79, 80, and 81:—

White, single mast

Black, single pole, surmounted by wicker ball.

SK-KU a village three or four miles from here,
was the great refuge for our boys during the
trouble, says the P. & T. Times. The Boxers
arranged with the servants to go there and they
would be safe. We believe that this village
has not been touched by the foreign troops.
We fancy if the place was investigated even
now some interesting discoveries might be
made.A NUMBER of people were permitted to visit
the Dean's Cloisters at Windsor Castle on the
5th of February, to inspect the Queen's
wreaths. The Lord Chamberlain's officials
were not then able to complete the list of floral
tributes received, but all labels, ribbons, and
badges were being carefully preserved for
entry. It was calculated that upwards of 3,000
wreaths were received.THE Royal Artillery Regimental Sports take
place at the Happy Valley on Thursday, the
21st inst., when almost every description of
athletics will be put into the field. Tugs-of-
war are included in the programme. The pre-
liminary heats are to be decided on Wednesday,
20th inst. By permission of Lieut.-Col. Bertie
and officers, the band of the Royal Welch Fusiliers
will play during the afternoon of each day.Why is it, we wonder, that the new Blake Pier
is unprovided with a shelter of any kind? The
rainy season will soon be upon us and it will
be most uncomfortable for those who are obliged
to wait on the pier for launches or sampans.
At the Police Pier at Kowloon, which is very
seldom used except by the Police and Military
launches, two excellent shelters with seats are
provided, yet the principal pier of the Colony
is left without a seat or shelter of any kind.
Surely the matter cannot have been overlooked!ON a hardship in coconut planting, says a
Straits paper, is the difficulty of plucking the
nuts from very tall trees. A Chinese estate
owner near Kuala Lumpur has surmounted the
difficulty by training a monkey to do the work.
The monkey's dexterity in climbing and the
great number of nuts he manages to pluck to
that of an expert. [This is by no means a new
departure. In some of the Malayan islands
the large pig-tailed macaque is largely employed
in gathering coconuts.—Ed., H.K.T.]THE DEPARTURE OF THE R. W. F.
FOR PEKING.All arrangements were to-day completed for
the despatch of the detachment of the Royal
Welch Fusiliers for Peking to relieve the
Australian contingent which has been stationed
at Peking for some considerable time past.
400 men and 15 officers of the R. W. F.THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON
WHARF AND GODOWN
COMPANY, LIMITED.The fourteenth ordinary annual meeting of
shareholders in the above Company was held
at the Company's office, No. 2, Connaught
Road, at noon, to-day, for the purpose of receiv-
ing the Report of the Directors, with a State-
ment of Accounts to the 31st December, 1900.
The Hon. J. J. Keswick (chairman) presided
and the others present were the Hon. C. P.
Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. C. S. Sharp, A. A. Siebs,
P. Wilkowsky, G. H. Medhurst, A. M. Mar-
shall, P. Sachse, A. J. Raymond, J. A. Mackay
(Directors), E. Osborne (secretary), Captain
Tillet, R. Seigh, T. F. Hough, Falk G. L.
Tomlin, R. Potts, R. J. Macgowan, J. Gos-
sain, C. Palmer, M. de Champeaux and Chan
A. Fook.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

The Chairman said—Gentlemen, with your
permission I propose to dispense with the read-
ing of the Report. The year 1900 as will be
seen from the figures detailed in the Accounts
was, notwithstanding the check to trade which
followed closely upon the political troubles in
the North, one of marked progress for the Com-
pany, one of the prosperous years in the steady,
though sometimes slow, development of your
business and had we been able to take full
advantage of the exceptional circumstances
brought about by the war the results, good as
they are, would have been better but we had
not the accommodation to do all that was asked
of us, and consequently were not able to reap
the utmost gain from the favourable conditions
of the moment. Bearing this in mind and in
continuation of our policy of being ahead rather
than behind the times we have made further
acquisitions of land and are providing additional
accommodation, our object being to possess
sufficient room to enable us to carry on work
to the satisfaction of constituents and with
credit to ourselves. This, under the cramped
conditions of the past 3 years, has not always
been possible but the extensions we have made
and others under contemplation should, before
long, provide the necessary remedy. The Capital
of the Company was increased early last year to
meet the outlays I have referred to and in order
to preserve a more even balance between our
indebtedness and Capital. The few shares that
were not taken up represent fractions, and
shares belonging to persons who were absent
from the Colony will be disposed of during the
year. The premium of the new issue is pro-
posed to place to Reserve and no doubt you
will approve of this as of the other suggested
appropriations of profit. By the typhoon of
10th November the Company's property ashore
and aloft suffered to the extent of nearly
\$10,000 and I have no hesitation in saying that
had there been shelter for our craft we should
have lost very considerably less. The Cause-
way Bay shelter which no doubt was good
enough for the days when it was made is bare-
ly sufficient to receive one craft alone, and
quite inadequate for the hundreds that need
protection in the typhoon season. The anchor-
age off Yau-ma-tei is good so long as the wind
remains in one direction, viz. from the North
East but forms a most dangerous trap in the
event of it shifting, as was the case in the
November typhoon and it is to be hoped that
further accommodation may be provided in time
to avoid a repetition of the damage done on
that occasion. The bubonic plague has been
a serious trouble and expense to us in the past
but I hope the remedial measures adopted will
tend to reduce the number of cases during the
current year and eventually eradicate the pest
altogether.There being no questions, the chairman
moved the adoption of the report and state-
ment of accounts.Mr. Gosman seconded. He said he fully
endorsed the chairman's remarks. He sup-
posed they could congratulate themselves on
the satisfactory working, but he trusted that
with the better accommodation spoken of by
the chairman, things would be better in future.
He hoped they would have another good year.
As regarded the shed for carpenter's goods,
perhaps the Government would give notice to
the chairman's remarks and perhaps the chair-
man might have occasion to move in the mat-
ter. They could congratulate themselves that
their losses had not been more serious than
they had been.The motion was put to the meeting and
carried unanimously.The next business before the meeting was
the confirmation of the appointment of Messrs.
A. M. Marshall, G. H. Medhurst, C. S. Sharp,
and P. Wilkowsky as directors. On the motion
of Mr. Hough seconded by Mr. Fair, the ap-
pointments were unanimously confirmed.The retiring directors, Messrs. A. Haupt and
P. Sachse, were unanimously re-elected on the
motion of Captain Tillet seconded by Mr.
Leigh.Mr. Tomlin proposed the reelection of
Messrs. F. Henderson and W. H. Potts as
auditors.Mr. Hough seconded and the motion was
carried unanimously.The Chairman.—That is all the business,
gentlemen. I am much obliged to you for
your attendance. Dividend warrants will be
posted this afternoon.

THEATRE ROYAL.

The last performance of the musical comedy
"Floradora" was given by Mr. Dallas's Com-
pany at the Theatre Royal City Hall, last
night, before a full house. A very hearty
reception was accorded to the performers
and many bouquets were bestowed upon the
actresses by an appreciative audience.To-night for the first time in Hongkong the
Chinese opera "San Toy," which is proving
such a success at Daly's Theatre in London,
will be put on the stage and will be repeated
on Friday and Saturday next week. "The
Belle of New York" will hold the stage for
the first three nights, and "The French Maid"
will occupy the remainder of the week.There is bound to be a rush for seats and the
Robinson Piano Company are going on space
with the booking.

AT THE MAGISTRACY.

LETTER RUNNER.

Before Mr. Kemp this morning Wong Sun,
a coolie, was charged with infringing the rights
of the Post Master General by carrying letters
to deliver them other than by the regular
post. He was fined 10 dollars and will be de-
tained yesterday with other letters containing money
in his possession, near the Canton wharf. He
had just landed from Canton.

His Worship inflicted a fine of \$100.

DISORDERLY AMERICAN.

M. Baile, a fireman of the U.S.S. "Ketchikan,"
was charged before Mr. Kemp this morning
with behaving in a disorderly manner whilst
drunk yesterday, with assaulting a rickshaw
coolie, and with damaging a constable's uniform
to the value of \$250.It appears that the defendant, being a rick-
shaw driver, drove up to East Point and then
drove down to the wharf and then drove up
to the wharf and then drove up to the wharf.

was treated in a like manner by the drunken man, who, however, was taken to the police station after a tussle.

His Worship fined the defendant \$2, or four days on the first two charges and \$2.50 or six days on the charge of damage to uniform.

The defendant was imprisoned.

THE CRISIS IN THE NORTH.

TIENTSIN.

Affairs in the North.
(From Our Own Correspondent.)

TIENTSIN, March 1st.

We are beginning once more to take a slight interest in Edicts. The long series of meaningless contradictions or obvious misrepresentations which have dribbled out since June is closed apparently, and a new series has been commenced, which will require some watching to see if they are genuine or not. The Edict of the 3rd of the 1st Moon sanctioning the punishment of the officials is genuine enough, and many of the sentences have been, I believe, already carried out. Two at least of the executions were conducted with as much publicity and ceremony as we could demand, in the presence of the President of the Board of Punishment and representatives of the Allied forces. The Edict runs:—We have already in former Edicts inflicted severe punishment on those officials who caused the present trouble. But we have received memorials from Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang stating that the Foreign Powers insist upon yet further punishment. We therefore order that in addition to our former mandate the following changes—Prince Ching to commit suicide, and Yu Hsien to be executed "at once," officials being appointed to witness it. It had been already decreed that Prince Tuan and Tsai Lau should be executed "with grace" but in regard to their relationship to us we will treat them leniently, and they will therefore be banished to life for life, and will start at once under official escort. King Yi, who was most malicious in his action, should have been executed "at once," but he is already dead. Yu Hsien and Chao Shu-chiao are to be executed "with grace," but now we order them to commit suicide. The Governor of Shensi, Cheng Chiu-Hsuan, must witness the death of Ching Hsin and Hsu Sheng-Yih (Son of Hsu Ting) have been accused by the Foreign Powers of helping the Boxers and purposely causing trouble, and have already been degraded. But if the Powers who now hold them prisoners will hand them over to Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang, let them be executed "at once," and let the President of the Board of Punishment witness it. Hsu Tung and Li Ping-heng both talked confidently of the Boxers and favoured them, and they ought to be executed "with grace" but they are already dead, and we therefore can only cancel their posthumous honours. Let this be obeyed.

The Edict which I submit is of a previous date but has been published since the above. At first glance it was thought by intelligent Chinese to be a bona fide Edict of the Emperor, and it was accordingly believed and hoped that he was regaining power. But on closer examination it proves to be merely a very clever attempt to shift all responsibility for the recent trouble on to official shoulders, and as another Edict of the same date commands all the Edicts since last June to be produced for Imperial inspection, as it is believed they have been "tampered with," I think you will find that the Court will pretend that all the Edicts favourable to Boxers etc. were altered by "unscrupulous officials" after they were drafted by the Imperial hand, and we shall probably hear at some later date that the officials named being executed were the culprits in this matter, and in this way it will come to be known that these men were executed, not for their offense against foreign nations, but for altering the Imperial Edicts. The subjoined Edict will be read with interest. It is full of minute contradictions and little slips which in reality strengthen the evidence against the Court, and the statement that the Southern Viceroy was ordered not to fight harmonises well with the involuntary viciousness of the immediately following reference to their having stood by and not helped the Court in their difficulties. It appears that Count von Waldersee does not place much faith in the Chinese attitude, as on the 25th ult. he renews his instructions for troops to be ready for a possible advance early this month. A force of some 2000 British would probably leave here under the command of Gen. Cummins, D.S.O., Gen. Richardson commanding the Cavalry, and the Field Marshal would himself command the allied column. Some doubt is felt, however, as to whether the force here is really strong enough for any such expedition. The country round here is increasingly disturbed and an expedition into the hills would place us at a considerable disadvantage. I forget whether I mentioned in my last the frequent disappearance of units, and attacks made on foreigners. Three or four violent deaths have been met this past week by men who more or less provoked Chinese attack by their own unlawful proceedings. It is not wise for foreigners to go about alone far from the settlements now, as the whole country abounds with brigands.

The port is well open again and flocks of people are expected up. The future of trade is at present obscure and like everything else will depend mainly on the action of the Court. Li Hung-chang talks confidently of the almost immediate withdrawal of the foreign troops, and is already making plans for the disposal of Chinese forces here and in Peking as soon as the "Allies have withdrawn." Picture us, guarded and protected by Chinese braves! The idea was never one which excited feelings of respect and awe, but has been the true cause of a fortnight's time, and the Welsh Fusiliers are again coming North, I hear.

EDICT ISSUED FEB. 14TH, 1901.

The revolt of the Boxers last summer was the cause of much bloodshed between hitherto friendly nations, and led to the fall of even our seat of Government. When the Capital of our Empire was attacked, and the Emperor, Empress Dowager and escaped to the Westward. We subsequently appointed Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang to be our plenipotentiaries to discuss terms of peace with the Foreign Powers. Yesterday we received telegrams from these Statesmen saying that the twelve general terms of peace had been agreed to, and we ordered them to carefully negotiate the remaining articles in such a way that China might be able to bear the burden of satisfying the Foreign Powers. The time has now therefore arrived for us to explain to the country and to the world what has occurred, and we have no recourse but to reveal to the officials and people all that we have endured, and how wrongly we have been accused. Those who have failed to appreciate the true causes of the Boxer rebellion have hastily accused us of negligence in allowing the Boxers to become so powerful. They do not appear to realise that we issued many Edicts during the 5th and 6th Moons ordering the suppression of the Boxers and the protection of the Christians. But the people

Court was powerless. At that time we were in a serious dilemma, our authority being set at naught, and we feared for the security of the dynasty. On the 21st of the 7th Moon (July 14th) the most serious event happened (Fall of Peking). The Emperor and Empress Dowager then prepared to offer ourselves as sacrifices to appease our wrathful ancestors, but while we cried and abased ourselves, the Princes and Ministers came and insisted on our escaping and forced us against our will through the fires and conflict to escape to the westward. Palaces around us were in ruins and officials killed. All this was the work of the Boxers. How then can it be said the Court helped the Boxers? The real reason of the Boxer rising is that the timid officials when dealing with law suits in which native Christians were concerned were afraid the foreign Consuls would punish them for injustice to the Christians, and others who wished to find favour with the people always sided with them against the Christians, so that a bitter feeling grew up between the people and the government, and this gave the Boxers an excuse for mischief. This was entirely the fault of the local officials. When the Boxers had destroyed churches and railways we ordered the reserve forces in Chihli to suppress them, but the Imperial troops were very badly controlled. They persecuted the good people, and the Boxers proclaimed that they were only against the Christians and would do no harm to the people. This caused the people to fear the troops and turn to the Boxers for protection, and the Boxer force thus became stronger and stronger. This was the fault of the military officers who did not exercise proper authority over their soldiers. The Boxers were wild rumours that they could perform great deeds by means of charms, and excited the ignorant people, and even the ignorant and conservative officials, and princes fell into the snare. These princes and officials who for many years have beheld with envy the power of other nations, foolishly hoped to strengthen our nation by the help of the Boxers, and caused Boxer drill to take place in every house and palace. Seeing this I and the Empress Dowager ordered Kang Yi to disperse these people, but instead of dispersing they appeared upon the walls of Peking in red belts and turbans and attacked the foreign Legations. The Empress Dowager has been recent and advisor for forty years, and I have been influenced throughout by her teaching to protect the Christians, and be friendly to Foreign nations. What faithful and loyal people would burn houses and kill people, and what Government would break peace with other nations and support rebels! During the trouble the leaders were backed by somebody, and I and the Empress found ourselves deprived of all power and in great personal danger. At the time when the Legations were besieged we several times ordered the Ministers of the Tientsin Yamen to stop the attack and to visit the foreign Ministers, but they were prevented by the fighting on both sides. The Court did its utmost to try to stop the attack, and thus the worst calamity to the foreign Ministers was averted. It is I, who, in order to satisfy the Empress Dowager's anxiety sent fruit and wines to the foreign Ministers, and fruit and wines for them ought to be widely known. Now by the peace negotiations I am in full possession still of power and Empire: I have lost neither prestige nor territory. I am grateful to the Foreign nations for their leniency, and truly grieved at what the officials have done, and I am sorrowful and humiliated, but hopeful that peace is really ensured and that the Powers will not offer more serious difficulties to be overcome. Let Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang negotiate the remaining articles carefully, and for the best interests of China. The Foreign nations are just and reasonable, and they know the capacity of China and they must modify their demands accordingly. We would further point out that at the time of the trouble, we ordered the Southern Viceroy to protect their Provinces but not to open hostilities. Fortunately they obeyed our wishes and did not break peace with the Foreign Powers, but entered into an agreement with the Consuls, and the trade of the Southern provinces was thereby saved from ruin. In times of peace these provinces were confident and boastful, but in time of need they were powerless, and instead of realizing the hardship and danger of the Court they stood calmly on one side and blamed it! Think of the position we were in. On the journey between Chang Ping and Hsien Hua, I attended the Empress Dowager in ragged cotton clothing and we were not able to eat more than a bowl of congee. The misery was even worse than that endured by the poorest people. Does not the thought of it make every official ashamed? But the responsibility for the officials of state rests upon the sovereign, and thus the fault of all this is mine, and I go into these details not to reproach you, but to urge you to do better in future.

Within the past twenty years after any trouble there has been some feeble pretence made at reform and talk of reorganizing Government finance and strengthening the Nation; but these plans became mere empty ornamental memorials, and in a short time corrupt practices and selfishness were again rampant. I would have you officials understand that the country cannot be built up in this way. At the best of times our finance is weak, and now this serious calamity has made us poorer than ever. You officials who have received so many precious benefits from the Government must exert yourselves and display your patriotic loyalty by devising some way by which we may be able to face the indemnity without causing the people to suffer too much. It is of the utmost importance now to abolish selfishness and conservative principles from the official circles, and then the affairs of the State may be better managed. You must report to us when reforms are needed and begin at once, as I and the Empress Dowager look to you to help us recover what we have lost and suffered by this great calamity to the nation. Let this be obeyed.—Free translation.

THE QUEEN'S FUNERAL.

AN EMPIRE'S GRIEF—IMPOSING NAVAL PAGEANT—LONDON'S FAREWELL.

With all the simplicity befitting a heroic life the funeral procession of Queen Victoria left Osborne on 1st ult. On a gun-carriage lay the Royal coffin which contained the body of her whom we love and mourn; first to the simple music of the Highland pipes, which she had always loved, and then to martial strains of a Funeral March, the pageant of an Empire moved to the margin of the sea, where, extended in stupendous silence, the fleets of our own and of other nations awaited the passing of a Queen. Following the coffin, His Majesty the King walked to where the Royal yacht awaited for the last time the presence of her whom death had at last conquered. With the German Emperor and the Duke of Connaught, His Majesty walked in the procession which accompanied all that was mortal of Queen Victoria to the Mausoleum at Frogmore, where the dust of the Princess Consort. Never before had there been so simple, and yet so magnificent a pageant of the dead. Death has conquered human strength, but the victory is incomplete. For the spirit of the dead Queen triumphed, in spite of the outward evidence

that we mourn one who has passed away from the land of the living.

Quietly and reverently the Royal procession walked to the sea, and there committed the body of our late Sovereign of glorious and blessed memory to the Royal yacht for safe conduct to the mainland. The spectacle of the Royal yacht, preceded by four destroyers on either bow, threading its way through the lines of warships which extended from Cowes to Portsmouth was one that shall never be seen again. And as the minute-gun heralded the progress of the Royal yacht with its sacred burden the sense of loss was only balanced by the splendour of the passing. For the last time the dead Queen passed through the fleet which had made her name and honour known all over the world: for the last time the officers and men of the fleet saluted the Monarch whose name had been on their lips ever since they knew what Empire meant. And she, in the silence of death, passed through the lines on her way to the capital of the Empire, where the people awaited the last opportunity of paying their homage to one who earned by her scrupulous honour and unflinching fortitude the love and undying gratitude of her subjects.

THE FLOATING BIER.

The raised dais on which the coffin rested was a little aloft the funnels of the *Alberta*, and just forward of the deck saloon known as the Royal Pavilion. Four pillars clothed in purple, with white silk and purple curtains, were so arranged that the curtains could be drawn around them, thus, with the canvas awning which covered the after part of the ship, creating a tiny chapel for the Royal remains to rest in. At right angles to the catwalk on which the coffin was placed were two small cabinets, also dressed with purple. On the one rested a crown, and on the other the orb and sceptre. From each of the four pillars were suspended magnificent wreaths, the privileged gifts of the admirals commanding at Portsmouth, Devonport, the Nile, and in the Channel. They represented anchor, being of white lilies of the valley, anemones, lilies, arum lilies, and azaleas, and the Vice-Admiral, Rear-Admiral, Captains, and Officers, as a slight token of loving devotion to their late Queen. One other wreath was placed at the base of the dais. It represented a heart, with the Geneva Cross in red, and from the naval nursing sisters. As the hawse of the ship were let go, and the yacht slowly steamed into the Roads, the coffin, with its magnificent covering guarded at the four corners by naval officers in their brilliant uniforms, was in full view of the thousands of mourning subjects who lined the shore and filled myriads of boats on the water. When the cannonade was discontinued by the line of guardships, darkness was gathering round before the *Alberta* fought her precious freight up to the blackening side of the wharf of the Royal Clarence Yard, where she remained during the night in the company of the *Victoria* and *Albert* and the *Albion*. From first to last the ceremony was one of unparalleled grandeur and solemnity, and one never likely to be forgotten by those who witnessed or participated in it.

THE PROCESSION THROUGH LONDON.

GREAT MILITARY PAGEANT.

Amid the most striking manifestations of profound national grief and reverence the remains of the Good and Queen Victoria were borne to rest at Windsor on 10th ult. No event of our time and few in history will compare for stately dignity and the outpouring of a people's love with the magnificent solemn pageantry of this Royal funeral. The might and majesty of England's naval power attended the removal of the body from Cowes to Gosport on 1st ult., and on the 2nd the military forces gave martial splendour to the funeral procession, while the tribute of multitudinous sorrowing crowds was deeply impressive. Nothing could have been more fitting than that the way to the London tomb at Windsor should be through London, the heart of the Empire, so that the people might do homage and bid farewell to their revered Queen. Business was universally suspended, and the great blinds of the houses were mutually eloquent of the occasion. From early morning huge masses of people, all decently habited in black, poured from every quarter of the metropolis to line the route from Victoria Station to Paddington. It was a supremely reverent, orderly crowd. There was no hustling or pushing for places, though so dense was the gathering that enormous throngs in the background had no chance of seeing anything of the procession. Yet it seemed to be satisfaction enough for them—many women with weeping eyes—to be close to the spot where their dead Queen was carried past, while they could see nothing save the gleaming plumes of the mounted troops in the procession, and hear the distant strains of sad funeral music.

It was a typical grey winter day, rather inclined to be misty in the morning, and on the whole well suited to the funeral surroundings, as the early mists rolled away, leaving the sun unable to gain the mastery over the pall of leaden-hued clouds that shrouded the sky. The special train bearing the Royal coffin and chief mourners from Gosport arrived at Victoria in good time, and without a hitch the funeral procession was got in order for the solemn march to Paddington. The head of the procession, which was nearly two miles in length, extended along Buckingham Palace road, through the Mall and into Piccadilly, and, at a given signal, it moved onwards. The moving pageant was a grand spectacle, illustrating the pomp and panoply of power, being represented by all branches of the British Army and Navy, and in a figure five European monarchs, besides Princes and Princesses and other Royal personages, innumerable. Through the vast, silent multitude, with heads reverently uncovered, the Royal remains were borne on a gun-carriage, drawn by eight cream-coloured ponies. The coffin was covered with a splendid white silk pall, and on this there were those symbols of regal dignity—the crown, sceptre, and orb. As chief mourner, the King rode behind the gun-carriage, with the German Emperor on his right and the Duke of Connaught on his left. The devotion of the crowd as the bier passed along was a touching sight. The dull boom of the minute-gun smote upon the ear, and bells were tolling mournfully all the time.

At the Great Western Terminus the coffin was drawn up in front of the funeral car. The King, the German Emperor, and the Duke of Connaught dismounted, and took their places on the platform, and Queen Alexandra and the other occupants of the carriages having alighted, the whole formed an avenue between the gun-carriage and the train. Four of the Great Officers of State travelled in the compartment which held the coffin.

THE PROCEEDINGS AT WINDSOR.

A STARTLING INCIDENT.

The train arrived at Windsor about two o'clock. The King was the first to alight, followed by the Emperor and the other monarchs and Princes. Queen Alexandra and the Princesses at once drove away in closed carriages to St. George's Chapel. The coffin, on which were the crown and sceptre, and other Royal and Imperial insignia, was removed from the funeral car by Grenadiers and placed on a gun-carriage behind which the King, the Emperor,

and the Duke of Connaught took their places. The order was at once given to start, but a difficulty occurred with the horses, some of which became unmanageable, and the carriage could not be moved. It was a painful and dramatic scene, writes one of the correspondents. The King of England and the representatives of the world looked on dumbfounded. In vain the artillerymen repeatedly tried to get the horses to proceed quietly. They only plunged and kicked more fiercely than before. The onlookers held their breath. The bands stopped playing, but the horses still refused to budge, and the carriage on which the royal remains lay remained motionless. The artillerymen exhausted all their devices to quieten the animals, and others went to their assistance, but their combined efforts availed nothing.

THE HOUR AND THE MAN.

Suddenly what appeared to be a hopeless difficulty was solved. The stupefying emergency had called forth the man. The man was Captain the Hon. Redworth Lambton, *Powerful* Lambton, of *Lady Smith*. Let the horses be taken out, he suggested, and the blue-jackets forming the guard of honour have the supreme privilege of drawing their dead mistress to St. George's Chapel. No sooner said than done. The restive horses were taken out of the gun-carriage and led away. Then the tars surrounded the carriage, and ropes, harness, and communication cords were brought from the train. Never will the sight be forgotten by its beholders. The King and the German Emperor watched the proceedings keenly, and it was remarkable how well His Majesty of England kept up under the painful ordeal. Rapidly, quietly, methodically the blue-jackets made their preparations, and soon all was ready. The sight was a magnificent one—the long row of sailors harnessed to the gun-carriage which was taking home the dead Empress of the Seas. Would not Her Majesty have wished it so? Up the station hill to the Castle came the coffin. People in the streets wondered when they saw the sailors coming, but they did not notice anything amiss. They thought it was all in the programme, for the blue-jackets drew their burden with as much ease as they had dragged the guns into *Lady Smith*. Surely all the history of Royal funerals can show nothing to equal this.

At the time that the gun-carriage which bore the remains of our late beloved Queen from Windsor Station to the Castle was fitted with a small but very powerful brake, worked by a small wheel, which could be turned by anyone standing immediately behind the carriage. When the horses were said to have refused to draw the gun-carriage they were described as having "come up to their collars," and it is admitted that they worked perfectly willingly before and after the funeral. It is suggested, therefore, that the unfortunate *contrainte* was caused by the brake in question being screwed up to keep the carriage motionless while the coffin was being laid upon it, and that by some mistake it was not taken off when the horses started. This would entirely account for their behaviour.

By the time that the coffin had reached St. George's Chapel the beautiful sanctuary held a congregation typical of all that is best in our national life—nobles, Ministers, and Privy Counsellors. During the service, which was conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Winchester, the coffin reposed on a purple catafalque at the foot of the altar-steps, the King standing at its head. At the close of the impressive rites Her Majesty's remains were removed to the Albert Chapel, whence they were subsequently to be taken and deposited in the Mausoleum at Frogmore beside those of her illustrious Consort. Simultaneously with the ceremony at Windsor special memorial services were held at Westminster and St. Paul's all over the United Kingdom, in every part of the British Empire, and, indeed, throughout the civilised world.

LAST SAD RITES—INTERMENT AT FROGMORE.

The interment of the Queen's remains at Frogmore on 4th inst. was marked by another picturesque pageant and an affecting final service. These funeral rites, which were conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Winchester, the coffin reposed on a purple catafalque at the foot of the altar-steps, the King standing at its head. At the close of the impressive rites Her Majesty's remains were removed to the Albert Chapel, whence they were subsequently to be taken and deposited in the Mausoleum at Frogmore beside those of her illustrious Consort. Simultaneously with the ceremony at Windsor special memorial services were held at Westminster and St. Paul's all over the United Kingdom, in every part of the British Empire, and, indeed, throughout the civilised world.

The whole grand ceremonial is over now; and it may be said that it is well with the Queen and well with us. She has left amongst us an undying memory of a great life task nobly accomplished, of wisdom, of loving-kindness, of goodness, and of sympathy. No man or woman can have looked unmoved on any of the great scenes which were enacted, or can have failed to feel that the honour which the nation paid abundantly and with a full heart to the funeral of the Queen was the just reward of simple goodness. Most priceless of all will be the memory of the events of 2nd ult. left in the minds of the little children, hundreds and thousands of whom will tell in the years to come that they were taken in the early morning to gaze upon a black London, to see the people's unspoken sorrow, to behold the coffin of the good Queen, with its pall of pure white and its insignia of Royalty, and its train of Kings and Princes—*L. & C. Express*.

NOTANDA.

CALENDAR.

MARCH.

Metropolitan means based on ten years' observations to 1899.

Barometer.....30.14

Thermometer.....57.3

Humidity.....79.0

Rainfall.....0.0

Wind.....S.W.

Clouds.....B.C.

Sea.....C.

Light.....D.

Temperature.....60.0

Barometer.....30.14

Thermometer.....57.3

Humidity.....79.0

Rainfall.....0.0

Wind.....S.W.

Clouds.....B.C.

Sea.....C.

Light.....D.

TO-DAY.		WEATHER REPORT.	
On date at 12 M.		On date at 12 M.	
Barometer.....	30.19	On date at 12 M.	30.08
Temperature.....	62	On date at 12 M.	64
Humidity.....	73	On date at 12 M.	78
Rainfall.....	0.04	On date at 12 M.	0.0

TO-DAY.

Chinese—24th of 1st moon of 7th year of Kwang-si.

Sun—Rises.....6hr. 17min.

Sets.....6hr. 5min.

Moon—Max. Declination S. 6hr. a.m.

High water—Morning.....6hr. 0min.

Afternoon.....6hr. 0min.

Low water—Morning.....6hr. 0min.

Afternoon.....6hr. 0min.

Mar. low water.....6hr. 0min.

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BY THE MAIL.

(From Home Papers.)

Mr. Balfour and the Church.

There is a widely spread rumour that Mr. Balfour intends to bring in a Bill early in the ensuing Session dealing with the troubles in the Church. The exact form of the measure is not yet settled, but it is understood that it will not be in the nature of a discipline Bill, but rather in the direction of a measure for giving powers of self-government to the Church, subject to the veto of Parliament.

The Vacant see of London.

It is reported in ecclesiastical circles that the vacant bishopric of London is likely to be conferred upon Dr. Jayne, the Bishop of Chester. The Bishop of Chester, whose handsome appearance led Mr. "Punch" to call him "My Pretty Jayne," is well known as a temperance advocate and as a good administrator. In Church controversies he may be described as holding moderate High Church views.

Great Fire at Baku.

A terrible catastrophe has occurred at Baku. On the 11th ult., a fire broke out in the magazine of the Caspian and Black Sea Company, containing an immense quantity of petroleum, amounting to 6,000,000 puds. The flames spread to three other depots with a storage capacity of 12,000,000 puds. While every effort was being made to control the fire, the naphtha poured out, like a stream of lava, and inundated the dwellings of the working people. The houses caught fire and were utterly destroyed. Many persons perished.

Misplaced Enthusiasm.

Carrie Nation, the leader of the Kansas Temperance Crusade, had a narrow escape from death on 5th ult. in Topeka, the capital of the State. She entered the finest saloon in the city, and was demolishing the furnishings when someone in the rear of the place fired a revolver shot at her. The bullet struck the wall just over her head. Five men and three women were with her at the time, and a great crowd in the streets gathered outside and threatened to break the door down. They had begun to handle the men very roughly when policemen appeared and arrested Miss Nation and her eight followers as the best means of avoiding trouble.

The New Krupp Quick-Firer.

It appears unlikely that the new quick-firing gun invented by Krupp will oblige the Admiralty to increase the calibre of our secondary armaments. Much will depend, of course, upon the rapidity of fire achieved by the German weapon, and German officers are said to attach great importance to the invention of the 28 centimetre gun. It will be remembered, however, that the Germans adopted 6 in. quick-firers some five years ago, and that quick-firers of equal calibre have been produced by at least one British company. Our gunnery officers experimented with these weapons and reported against them because the Service pattern 6 in. gun could throw a greater weight of metal in equal time.

Attempted Suicide of a Prince.

A great sensation has been caused in the Russian capital by the attempted suicide of Prince Baryatinski, the editor of the *Severnyy Kurier*, which was suppressed by the Government on account of its Liberal attitude. It was owing to this that the Prince got into difficulties, which were the more embarrassing since he had fallen out with his millionaire father, on account of his marriage with an actress. The Prince was a special favourite of the students, and it was his sympathies with them which caused the Government to proceed against him. Should his attempt to take his life end in his death, it is feared that there will be serious demonstrations on the part of the students.

The German Navy.

The present year will witness a considerable increase in the strength of the German navy, in accordance with the provisions of the Navy Law of 1900. Three battleships—the *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse*, the *Kaiser Barbarossa*, and the *Kaiser Karl der Grosse*—which are being built at Kiel, Danzig, and Hamburg respectively, will, it is expected, be launched this year. The navy will be further strengthened by the addition of five cruisers, which will be completed before the end of the year. Besides the above vessels, five battleships, an armoured cruiser, and one gunboat are at present on the stocks, and will be joined, as soon as the naval estimates for the financial year 1901 are accepted, by two battleships, one armoured cruiser, and three protected cruisers, for the construction of which the first instalments will be voted.

The Alexandra Palace.

London is to be congratulated on having secured the Alexandra Palace and grounds as a national possession. Hitherto the place has not been very happy either in finance or reputation. It was long a building, and then it was burnt down, but ever since its reconstruction it could never be called successful, and at one time it became notorious for its Cockney deer-hunts and other sports, equally cruel and ridiculous. We are too busy, and we take our pleasures much too seriously, for a place of dubious entertainment in the distant suburbs. The difficulty will be for the public authorities to decide now what use it will best serve. For the building itself we can imagine very little use of any kind, except that part of it might serve for occasional concerts on the scale of the Handel Festivals. But the grounds will be invaluable.

The Navy Estimates.

A correspondent hears on good authority that the coming Navy Estimates will provide for battleships aggregating 17,000 tons, and the secondary armament, instead of being all 6 in. quick-firing guns, as has hitherto been the case, will include a new 7.5 quick-firing gun. To show the full significance of the changes, it may be stated that the largest existing vessel is a Japanese battleship of 15,000 tons, while the Americans propose to build ships of 15,300 tons. The increase on the heaviest existing battleships in our own Navy will be 2,000 tons. It is calculated by the Admiralty that by the time the new ships are in commission the large docks now in course of construction at Gibraltar, Malta, and Hongkong will be available for their use, and they will have the advantage of the widened Suez Canal, with a uniform depth of thirty feet.

Lucky London.

Another addition has to be made to the series of noble gifts made by munificent donors to London. At the meeting of the London County Council on the 5th ult., the chairman, Mr. W. H. Dickinson, read a letter from another member, Mr. E. J. Horniman, embodying a splendid offer from that gentleman's father, Mr. F. J. Horniman, M.P. The latter offers as a free gift to London a freehold estate of 40 acres, near Finsbury, with the museum thereon, erected at a cost of £40,000, and containing the largest art and natural history collections gathered by Mr. Horniman in the past twenty-five years. The grounds of nearly ten acres are suitable for a park or recreation ground, and there is also a library of 5,500 volumes of travel, natural history, &c., and 700 volumes of Biblical history. The Council accepted the gift with acclamation, the chairman estimating its value at from £50,000 to £100,000.

The Danger of Overhead Wires.

An accident to the telephone wires in Liverpool on 4th ult. had very serious consequences and has caused great alarm in the city. It appears that a "bunch" of wires fell upon the trolley wire of the electric tramway system, which are heavily charged with electricity. When the ends of the fallen wires touched the ground the electrical circuit was completed, and people who came into contact with them received shocks of greater or less strength. The streets in the neighbourhood of the accident were full of people, and many persons became entangled in the "live" coils which were partly hidden by the snow. The earlier attempts at rescue only led to an addition to the number of victims, the current being transmitted to the would-be rescuers through the bodies of the original sufferers. The shrieks and groans of the terrified foot-passengers are described as heartrending. When the unfortunate people were at length released from their perilous situation it was found that two men had been killed, and that a great many others were in a serious condition, suffering from burns, hysteria, and shock. The fall of the wires was due to the accumulation of snow upon them.

Naval Expenditure.

An instructive paper has just been published showing for all the principal countries in the world how the naval expenditure of each country compares with the commercial interests at stake. The paper is specially valuable for the light it throws on the vexed question whether the Colonial contributions towards the naval defence of the Empire are adequate. After studying these figures the most complacent Canadian or Australian will be bound to admit that the Colonies do not make a very creditable appearance. Take first the question of exports. In proportion to their exports—by sea—the six Colonies of Australia which are now federated in one Commonwealth spent on naval defence only halfpenny for every pound's worth of trade. The United Kingdom spent in proportion 1s. 5d., or thirty-four times as much. Take next the mercantile marine. For every ton of Australian-owned shipping Australia spent 10s.; the corresponding figure for the United Kingdom was 57s. It may be argued that Australia is poorer, and can therefore afford less; but the revenue test gives the same result, as the other tests. Out of every pound of revenue raised the United Kingdom devotes 1s. 4d. to the naval defence of the Empire; Australia devotes three pence; New Zealand stands much in the same position as Australia.

The German Emperor.

The *Times* in a leading article says—The simple and cordial fashion in which the German Emperor has shared the sorrows of his Royal kinsfolk and of the British people will not lightly be forgotten by us. Now that all is over, too, is constrained to terminate his long visit of condolence and of respect to our shores and to return to his exalted duties as the Sovereign of the German people. There have been and there may again be differences of opinion between the British and German nations, but these great races of Teutonic blood have many fine qualities in common, and one of the finest, as it is one of the dearest and one of the most general, is their affectionate regard for families. Both peoples feel that the devotion of the Emperor has shown to the memory of his grandmother does credit to the excellence of his character and of his heart. We in England of all ranks and classes have been profoundly touched by it—the more profoundly because we are well aware that it does not and cannot possess the political significance some ill-informed Continental writers have been inclined to ascribe to it. The kindly and cordial feeling between the German Emperor and his subjects in all hearts may, we trust, help to promote a better understanding between Germany and the nation over whom William II. bears rule, but, save in this respect, this tribute of family affection and of love and reverence for the dead cannot be supposed to have any direct influence upon international affairs.

Through Chinese Spectacles.

In a series of letters to the *Saturday Review* signed John Chinaman, the writer regards certain aspects of Western civilisation from the Chinese point of view. Some of his remarks are not without both sense and force, and at any rate it is distinctly useful on occasions to see ourselves as others see us. The picture is not exactly flattering, but after making all allowances for exaggeration, candour compels one to admit that it is not altogether fanciful. The English citizen, from "John Chinaman's" point of view, is divorced from nature but unreclaimed by art; instructed, but not educated; assimilated, but incapable of thought. Trained in the tenets of a religion in which he does not believe—for he sees it flatly contradicted in every relation of life—he dimly feels that it is prudent to conceal under a mask of piety the atheism he is hardly intelligent enough to avow. His religion is conventional; and, what is more important, his morals are as conventional as his creed. Charity, chastity, self-abnegation, contempt of the world and its prizes—these are the words on which he has been fed from his childhood upwards. And words they have remained; for he has neither anywhere seen them practised by others, nor has it ever occurred to him to practise them himself. Their influence, while strong enough to make him a chronic hypocrite, is not so strong as to show him the support of a true ethical standard, embodied in the life of the society of which he is a member, he is duped, on the other, by the worship of an important ideal. Abandoned thus to his instinct he is content to do as others do, and ignoring the things of the spirit to devote himself to material ends. Our architecture, literature, and art, all come in for criticism, and finally society is described as a huge engine, and that engine itself out of gear!

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Auction.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.
No. 142.

THE following Particulars and Conditions of the Sale of Crown Land by Public Auction, to be held at the Office of the Public Works Department, on

MONDAY,

the 18th day of March, 1901, at 3 P.M., are published for general information.
By Command,
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Particulars and Conditions of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on Monday, the 18th day of March, 1901, at 3 P.M., in the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of CROWN LAND, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 Years, with the option of renewal at a CROWN RENT to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the KING, for one further term of 75 years.

No. and Name of Registry Map.	LOCALITY.	Boundary Measurements.				Containing in Square Feet.	Annual Rental.	Upset Price.
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Intimations.

NOTICE.

TENDERS are hereby called for the ERECTION OF BRICK SHOPS at JESSLETON for the NORTH BORNEO GOVERNMENT, Particulars of which may be seen at the OFFICE of
Messrs. GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.
Agents.
Hongkong, 15th February, 1901.

MISS M. MARQUES DA SILVA begs to notify that she undertakes to give LESSONS in PIANO-FOLE TO LADIES and CHILDREN.
Terms very Moderate.
Enquiries by Letter, care of OFFICE of This Paper.
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